REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The rejection presented in the Office Action dated November 27, 2007 (hereinafter Office Action) has been considered but is believed to be improper. Reconsideration of the pending claims and allowance of the application in view of the present response is respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully traverses the § 102(b) rejection based upon U.S. Patent No. 5,558,339 to Perlman (hereinafter "Perlman") because Perlman does not teach or suggest each of the claimed limitations. For example, Perlman does not teach or suggest an electronic gaming device that stores contact information of at least one user of another gaming device, receives a response to a gaming request sent by the device, and starts a game in multiplayer mode in response to that response being positive. In direct contrast, Perlman teaches a system where gaming devices rely upon a third party server to review contact information and link the remote devices. The following chart illustrates how the asserted teachings of Perlman fail to teach a device that corresponds to each of the claimed limitations, using Claim 1 as an example.

Applicant's Claim Limitations Directed to An Electronic Device	Perlman
a memory to store contact information of at least one user of the at least one other gaming device, the information including data about the multiplayer capable games supported by the at least one other device	server 88 receives and reviews the country code, area code and telephone number of logged-in users (Col. 11, lines 15-17 and step 4, described at 22-40)
a controlling unit configured to send a gaming request to the at least one other gaming device, the request containing an invitation to play a game supported by both devices	computer 65 (of User A) dials the local telephone number of computer 66 (of matched User B) (Col. 12, step 7, described at lines 20-23)
a controlling unit configured to start the game in a multiplayer mode in the device responsive to the positive response	computers 65 and 66 play their twitch two-player video game (Col. 12, step 9, described at lines 45-50)

Perlman's system requires that a separate server 88, not one of the gaming devices (computers 65 and 66), review the contact information of the gaming devices; therefore,

none of the devices discussed in Perlman corresponds to each of the claimed limitations. Moreover, none of the devices in Perlman has been shown to teach storing contact information, as claimed. Rather, Perlman teaches reviewing contact information of logged-in users but makes no mention of storing the users' contact information or of storing data about multiplayer capable games supported by the logged-in users' computers.

Rather, Perlman teaches away from the gaming devices storing such contact information for reasons related to privacy. Perlman specifically teaches that the phone number (asserted as corresponding to the claimed contact information) of the gaming device being contacted (computer 66/User B) will not be revealed to the user making the contact phone call. *See, e.g.*, Col. 12, lines 14-16 and Col. 13, lines 29-31, 37. Further, Perlman teaches that the caller ID will be deactivated to prevent User B from receiving contact information for User A (Col. 13, lines 39-43). Thus, Perlman fails to teach an electronic gaming device, as claimed. Without a presentation of correspondence to each of the claimed limitations, the § 102(b) rejection is improper.

Applicant notes that to anticipate a claim the asserted reference must teach every element of the claim. "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the patent claim; *i.e.* every element of the claimed invention must be literally present, arranged as in the claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). Therefore, all claim elements, and their limitations, must be found in the prior art reference to maintain the rejection based on 35 U.S.C. § 102. Applicant respectfully submits that Perlman does not teach every element of at least independent Claims 1, 15, 19 and 23 in the requisite detail and therefore fails to anticipate Claims 1-15 and 17-28.

In addition, dependent Claims 2-14, 17, 18, 20-22 and 24-28 depend from independent Claims 1, 19 and 23, respectively, and also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Perlman. While Applicant does not acquiesce to the particular rejection to these dependent claims, the rejection is also improper for the

reasons discussed above in connection with independent Claims 1, 19 and 23. These dependent claims include all of the limitations of independent Claims 1, 19 and 23 and any intervening claims, and recite additional features which further distinguish them from the cited reference. Therefore, the rejection of dependent Claims 2-14, 17, 18, 20-22 and 24-28 is improper. Applicant accordingly requests that the § 102(b) rejection be withdrawn.

With particular respect to dependent Claims 7 and 25, the Office Action still has not identified where Perlman teaches use of an event log stored in the device, as claimed in Claims 7 and 25. Without an assertion or presentation of correspondence to each of the claimed limitations, the rejection is improper, and Applicant requests that it be withdrawn.

Without acquiescing to characterizations of the asserted art, Applicant's claimed subject matter, or to the applications of the asserted art or combinations thereof to Applicant's claimed subject matter and in an effort to facilitate prosecution, Applicant has amended independent Claims 1, 15, 19 and 23 to characterize that the gaming request is sent based on stored contact information. These changes merely more explicitly state that which was already implicit in the claims, and further support may be found in the Specification, for example, at paragraph [0010]; therefore, these changes do not introduce new matter and are believed to further illustrate subject matter that is absent in the asserted reference. Thus, Perlman does not correspond to at least these limitations, and the rejection is improper.

Authorization is given to charge Deposit Account No. 50-3581 (NKO.024.A1) any necessary fees for this filing. If the Examiner believes it necessary or helpful, the undersigned attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney to discuss any issues related to this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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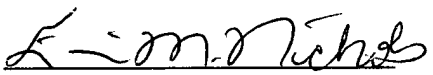
By: 

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